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CIA Brief On S. Viet 'Disturbing'

WASHINGTON — (UPI) —

Administration officials are disturbed by the possible political repercussions of a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) document which contains an implication that a compromise with the Communists may eventually be necessary in the South Viet Nam power struggle.

Top-level officials are attempting to make it clear that the CIA report — which declares at one point that victory over the Communists is doubtful and that a "neutralization" deal may be called for — does not represent U.S. policy.

The 45-page paper, prepared by Willard Matthias of CIA's board of national estimates, attempts to assess developments in various parts of the world within the framework of the Soviet-American power relationship.

It was written earlier this year. It has been circulated among various government agencies with a notation that it had "general approval" of the CIA board, which had, however, made no attempt to reach complete agreement on every point of it.

The political implications of the report are obvious, inasmuch as Republican presidential candidate Barry M. Goldwater is charging the Johnson administration with a "no-win" foreign policy.

Administration officials say

they want to emphasize that the paper has never been presented to or considered by President Johnson's National Security Council or the top level U.S. intelligence estimate board.

Official sources disclosed the existence of the document when they learned it had been offered for publication as a major outline of American policy. They asserted that this was not true and that the ideas were, as one official put it, "only one man's opinion."

Aside from the Viet Nam neutralization reference, the document appeared to be a routine summary of the obvious changes brought about by the nuclear stalemate between Russia and the U.S., complicated by the Red Chinese-Russian ideological conflict.

The portion of the document on South Viet Nam which apparently touched a sensitive administration nerve said:

"The counter-guerrilla effort continues to flounder, partly because of the inherent difficulty of the problem and partly because (the last President Ngo Dinh) Diem's successors have not yet demonstrated the leadership and the inspiration necessary.

"There remains serious doubt that victory can be won, and the situation remains very fragile. If large-scale U.S. support continues and if further political deterioration within South Viet Nam is prevented, at least a prolonged stalemate can be attained.

"There is also a chance that political evolution within the country and developments upon the world scene could lead to some kind of negotiated settlement based upon neutralization."

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